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**From:** Nassif, Julianne (DPH)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 29, 2009 4:09 PM  
**To:** Auerbach, John (DPH)  
**Subject:** FW: 3,004 marijuana samples

John,

See note below from Betsy O'Brien who supervises the Drug lab Evidence Office in Boston. We have been talking about a letter to all the District Attorneys informing them that we would not be testing these "old" marijuana samples and returning the evidence to submitting police departments. Doing so would have a very positive effect on the backlog, the storage crisis and morale.

Grace wisely suggested that I run this by you first, since we may or may not want to have such a dramatic change in the backlog right now. Thoughts?

Julie

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**From:** O'Brien, Elisabeth (DPH)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 29, 2009 4:00 PM  
**To:** Nassif, Julianne (DPH)  
**Cc:** Salemi, Charles (DPH)  
**Subject:** 3,004 marijuana samples

Just as an interesting note, there are approximately 3,004 marijuana samples waiting for analysis that were received before 1/1/09. This is our marijuana backlog from 9/16/2008 thru 12/30/08. I'm hopeful that many of these, although not all, will qualify for "Not Tested" status pending the outcome of your letter.

Just thought you would want to know the potential scope of this endeavor.

Betsy